



SCHOOL EMPLOYER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

August 11, 2004

11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Room 1170/80, Lincoln Plaza

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Amy Adams
Beth Qualle
Brenda Boothe
Carolyn Nielsen
Cindy Davis
Darrell Early
Janice Hassler
Deb Smith
Joanne Snow
Karen Wiker
Lynda Joseph

Marsha Dotterer
Paula Driscoll
Rick Duran
Roni Tobin
Sharie Ortega
Tammy Britt
Wanda Cobb
Lisa Hotchkiss
Carroll Ashlod
Ken Marzion
Ann Music

Roz Ringh
Wayne Breece
Anthony Suine
Mike Hardin
Jill Coe
Beth Chandler
Dawn Evans
Elena Shine
Teresa Cox
Dora Noegel

CALPERS/CALSTRS MEMBERSHIP ELECTIONS

Members of CalSTRS Defined Benefit Plan who become employed by a school district, community college, a county superintendent of schools, limited state departments or who has 5 years of CalPERS service credit after 1-1-02 may elect to remain a member of CalPERS through their certificated position by filing a Retirement System Election form (MR 372) to CalSTRS. Handouts were distributed which included Instructions, Information, the MR 372, a flow chart and the Government Code Section 20309 and 20309.5 from the Public Employees' Retirement Law (PERL). The MR 372 form must be received within 60 days of employment. CalPERS upon receipt will determine eligibility. A question was asked if part time and substitute positions qualify to use the election form (MR 372). This will be explored. Another question followed whether or not previous employment for a school employer qualified the member for the election. It was pointed out that the language in the law implied that the member had to be currently working for a school employer to be eligible. This will be explored with CalPERS' Legal Office for clarification. Findings of these two questions will be discussed at the November 10 meeting. The handouts are attached.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dora reported that there has been very little activity in Legislation since our last meeting. A legislation update handout was distributed.

ACES PARTICIPANT INQUIRY

In a past meeting, CalPERS has been asked why we cannot give out years of service and prior school employment information to an employer. This was identified as a need to help districts determine CalPERS/CalSTRS election rights. It was explained that the vesting (years of service information) is on a different mainframe system that cannot communicate with ACES without drastic and expensive changes to our systems. These type of drastic and expensive changes are all a part of the new payroll system that will be developed but is on hold for the time being. The prior school employment information is available in a system that currently communicates with ACES, and the idea will be presented to the ACES Change Control Board to determine the feasibility and timeframes of when this can be completed.

More information on this subject will be shared at the Educational Forum in October. The ACES staff is available to go to your facility and train your staff on ACES. Feel free to contact ACES to set up a training seminar at your working site.

RETIREMENT ROLL INFORMATION

There was a discussion on what kind of notification employers get from CalPERS as to who is on the retirement roll. Also, discussed was whether the notification letter to the employer when an employee goes on the retirement roll could include the district code. This will be explored and discussed at the next meeting.

OVERTIME PAY RATES

At a previous meeting, the question was raised on how many hours must be worked before considered overtime. The work week typically is 40 hours. Anthony Suine discussed this issue with CalPERS' Legal office. It was determined that anytime a member works more than 40 hours in a work week, that is considered overtime and should not be reported to CalPERS. Those excess hours between the normal work week and 40 hours per week should be reported as straight time, even though it may be paid by the district at time and a half (see attached). Once the regulations are approved, a Circular Letter will be sent out.

2004 EDUCATIONAL FORUM

The Educational Forum this year is from October 25-27 in Anaheim. Some of the items of interest to schools will be the Cargill decision and Risk Pooling. Special invitation will be sent out to the city attorneys regarding the forum and topics for discussion.

OPERATING EFFICIENCIES

No new ideas were presented.

PROPOSED 2005 MEETING SCHEDULE

The proposed 2005 schedule was distributed (see attached). The schedule has been set up to occur quarterly rather than bi-monthly as discussed in June. Since there were no objections to the proposal, the schedule was approved as written. It will be posted on the Internet in the near future.

AGENDA FOR NOVEMBER 10

The following were suggested topics for the next meeting: Part-time and Substitute Teaching Positions; Prior School Employment; Legislation; Misc. Follow-up.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Attachments